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Message Text

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DRAFTED BY A/OC-N:JWJACARUSO:KLH
APPROVED BY A/OC:WENAEHER
NCS:JROSE(SUB)
DCA:LTCOMDR. BARTOL(SUB)
EUR/SOV:FMISCH
---------- 117657
P 112159Z JUN 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 123684

E.O. 11652: N/A.
TAGS:ACOM, US, UR
SUBJECT: US-USSR DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS LINK

1. REQUEST FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE DELIVERED TO DR. V.P. MINASHIN, MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING OPERATIONAL SCHEDULE DCL:

QUOTE

DEAR DR.MINASHIN:

I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF APRIL 28, 1974, AND I AM PLEASED TO SEE THAT YOU ARE MAKING PROGRESS TOWARD THE ACTIVATION OF THE DCL.

CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF TESTING THE DCL IN THE INTEL-SAT SYSTEM, WE ARE PREPARED FOR EARTH STATION-TO-EARTH STATION TESTING AT ANY TIME YOU DESIRE AFTER ONE WEEKS NOTICE. THE SATELLITES ARE IN ORBIT AND THE ETAM STATION IS OPERATIONAL.

IT IS NOTED THAT WE HAVE PROPOSED THE DCL IN BOTH THE MONIYA AND INTELSAT SYSTEMS BE ACTIVATED FOR FULL OPERATION
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ON OCTOBER 1, 1974. AS YOU ARE AWARE, TO MEET THIS

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SCHEDULE IT IS NECESSARY THAT CERTAIN TESTS AND NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS BE ACCOMPLISHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FOR

EXAMPLE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE FREQUENCIES ASSIGNED FOR USE IN THE MOLNIYA SYSTEM AT DIETRICK STATION MAY INTERFERE WITH EXISTING SYSTEMS. WE CANNOT DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THIS IS THE CASE UNTIL TESTING IS COMPLETED. FOR THIS REASON, WE HAD HOPED THAT BECAUSE THE MOLNIYA SYSTEM IS AT THE PRESENT TIME OPERATIONAL AND, SINCE YOU HAVE PROVIDED US WITH THE ORBITING ELEMENTS, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO CONDUCT LOOP-BACK TESTING IN THE MARCH/APRIL TIME FRAME. THEREFORE, WE ARE CONCERNED TO NOTE THAT YOU SUGGEST THAT WE PLAN TO TEST THE U.S. EARTH STATION EQUIPMENT TENTATIVELY IN THE FALL OF 1974. WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY LOOP-BACK TESTING WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE MUCH EARLIER THAN THAT. THEREFORE, WE ASK THAT YOU PERMIT SUCH TESTING AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE, AND THAT A SPECIFIC DATE BE ESTABLISHED TO PERMIT TIME FOR ANY POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENTS.

WE HAVE RECEIVED THE COPIES OF THE DOCUMENT CONCERNING THE MOLNIYA-2 DCL OPERATION. OUR COMMENTS WILL BE FORWARDED TO YOU SHORTLY.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE INTELSAT DCL OPERATION MANUAL AND HOPE THAT IT MEETS WITH YOUR APPROVAL.

WE HAVE RECEIVED YOUR SIGNED AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF THE CRYPTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT. I HOPE THAT ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE TO TRANSPORT THIS EQUIPMENT TO MOSCOW ON THE AIRCRAFT WHICH WILL CARRY THE EQUIPMENT FOR PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT. PLEASE ADVISE ME IF THESE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD PRESENT YOU WITH ANY DIFFICULTIES.

I AM SORRY FOR THE DELAY IN REPLYING TO YOUR LETTER. HOWEVER, THE ENVELOPE WAS INCORRECTLY ADDRESSED TO THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AND MY NAME WAS INCORRECTLY SPELLED AS V.E. NAYER. THEREFORE, I DID NOT RECEIVE IT UNTIL MAY 24, 1974 WHEN I WAS AWAY FROM MY
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OFFICE ON A TRIP.

--- SINCERELY,

--- WILLIS E. NAEHER
--- DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
--- FOR COMMUNICATIONS
--- US DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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